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| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/734,017 | |
| | Filing Date | December 10, 2003 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Randall J. Huebner | |
| | Art Unit | 3732 | |
| | Examiner Name | | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 22+ | Attorney Docket Number | ACM 347 |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): 1. PTO-1449 Forms (19 pages) 2. Foreign references (10) 3. "Other" documents (27) |
| <div>Remarks</div> | | |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | |
|--|--|
| Firm or Individual name | James R. Abney, Esq. Kolisch Hartwell, P.C. |
| Signature | |
| Date | August 17, 2004 |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | | | |
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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. | | | |
| Typed or printed name | Renee Knight | | |
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Date: August 17, 2004

RANDALL J. HUEBNER and STEVEN P. HORST

Serial No. : 10/734,017

Group Art Unit 3732

Filed : December 10, 2003

For : EXTERNAL FIXATOR

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98

Applicants are submitting this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98 to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the patents, publications, applications, and/or other references listed on the enclosed, completed PTO-1449 form(s). The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the listed references are prior art for this application. Applicants respectfully request that the listed references be expressly considered during prosecution of the application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patents issuing therefrom.

CONTENT OF DISCLOSURE

This Information Disclosure Statement includes (1) 19 pages of PTO-1449 forms, and (2) a legible copy of each foreign and non-patent reference, if any, listed on the form(s).

However, because this application was filed on or after July 1, 2003, no copies of U.S. patents or published U.S. patent applications are included.

FOREIGN-LANGUAGE REFERENCES

A concise explanation of the relevance of each listed reference not in the English language follows:

German Patent Document No. DT 24 37 752: This reference appears to disclose an external fixator, as shown in the figures.

TIMING OF DISCLOSURE / FEE INFORMATION

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, either (1) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits, or (2) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions or comments regarding this Information Disclosure Statement.

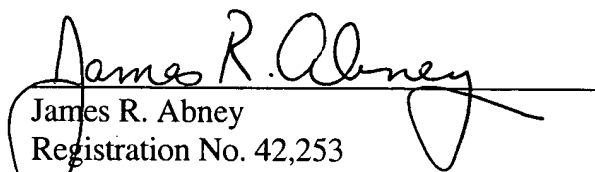
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on August 17, 2004.


Renee Knight

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SHEET 1 OF 19

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| FORM PTO-1449 | | DOCKET NUMBER ACM 347 | | APPLICATION NUMBER 10/734,017 | | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION | | APPLICANTS Randall J. Huebner and Steven P. Horst | | | | |
| | | FILING DATE December 10, 2003 | | GROUP ART UNIT 3732 | | |
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SHEET 2 OF 19

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| | 4,662,365 | 5/5/87 | Gotzen et al. | | | |
| | 4,664,099 | 5/12/87 | Pearl, Jr. | | | |
| | 4,696,293 | 9/29/87 | Ciullo, Jerome V. | | | |
| | 4,714,076 | 12/22/87 | Comte et al. | | | |
| | 4,730,608 | 3/15/88 | Schlein | | | |
| | 4,745,913 | 5/24/88 | Castaman et al. | | | |
| | 4,747,400 | 5/31/88 | Koeneman et al. | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FIL. DATE IF APPROP. |
| | 4,823,781 | 4/25/89 | Buchanan | | | |
| | 4,848,368 | 7/18/89 | Kronner | | | |
| | 4,862,879 | 9/5/89 | Coombs | | | |
| | 4,869,242 | 9/26/89 | Galluzzo | | | |
| | 4,895,141 | 1/23/90 | Koeneman et al. | | | |
| | 4,913,137 | 4/3/90 | Azer et al. | | | |
| | 4,922,896 | 5/8/90 | Agee et al. | | | |
| | 4,923,458 | 5/8/90 | Fischer | | | |
| | 4,936,843 | 6/26/90 | Sohngen | | | |
| | 4,941,481 | 7/17/90 | Wagenknecht | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| | 4,942,872 | 7/24/90 | Jawish | | | | |
| | 4,976,712 | 12/11/90 | VanderSlik | | | | |
| | 4,978,348 | 12/18/90 | Ilizarov | | | | |
| | 4,988,349 | 1/29/91 | Pennig | | | | |
| | 4,998,935 | 3/12/91 | Pennig | | | | |
| | 5,003,969 | 4/2/91 | Azer et al. | | | | |
| | 5,014,681 | 5/14/91 | Neeman et al. | | | | |
| | 5,019,077 | 5/28/91 | De Bastiani et al. | | | | |
| | 5,024,618 | 6/18/91 | Tepic | | | | |
| | 5,026,372 | 6/25/91 | Sturtzkopf et al. | | | | |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FIL. DATE IF APPROP. | |
| | 5,033,457 | 7/23/91 | Bonutti | | | | |
| | 5,042,508 | 8/27/91 | Richard | | | | |
| | 5,098,432 | 3/24/92 | Wagenknecht | | | | |
| | 5,100,403 | 3/31/92 | Hotchkiss et al. | | | | |
| | 5,102,411 | 4/7/92 | Hotchkiss et al. | | | | |
| | 5,108,393 | 4/28/92 | Ruffa | | | | |
| | 5,108,394 | 4/28/92 | Kurokawa et al. | | | | |
| | 5,108,396 | 4/28/92 | Lackey et al. | | | | |
| | 5,108,404 | 4/28/92 | Scholten et al. | | | | |
| | 5,122,140 | 6/16/92 | Asche et al. | | | | |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FIL. DATE IF APPROP. |
| | 5,125,400 | 6/30/92 | Johnson, Jr. | | | |
| | 5,133,342 | 7/28/92 | Seaton | | | |
| | 5,152,280 | 10/6/92 | Danieli | | | |
| | 5,160,335 | 11/3/92 | Wagenknecht | | | |
| | 5,167,661 | 12/1/92 | Wagenknecht | | | |
| | 5,171,310 | 12/15/92 | Chisena | | | |
| | 5,203,783 | 4/20/93 | Harle | | | |
| | 5,207,676 | 5/4/93 | Canadell et al. | | | |
| | 5,209,750 | 5/11/93 | Stef | | | |
| | 5,254,078 | 10/19/93 | Carter et al. | | | |
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| | 5,267,951 | 12/7/93 | Ishii | | | |
| | 5,275,599 | 1/4/94 | Zbikowski et al. | | | |
| | 5,281,224 | 1/25/94 | Faccioli et al. | | | |
| | 5,284,468 | 2/8/94 | Nelson | | | |
| | 5,286,249 | 2/15/94 | Thibodaux | | | |
| | 5,288,286 | 2/22/94 | Davis et al. | | | |
| | 5,292,322 | 3/8/94 | Faccioli et al. | | | |
| | 5,300,072 | 4/5/94 | Aghion | | | |
| | 5,304,177 | 4/19/94 | Pennig | | | |
| | 5,314,426 | 5/24/94 | Pohl et al. | | | |

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| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FIL. DATE IF APPROP. |
| | 5,320,622 | 6/14/94 | Faccioli et al. | | | |
| | 5,320,623 | 6/14/94 | Pennig | | | |
| | 5,330,474 | 7/19/94 | Lin | | | |
| | 5,334,202 | 8/2/94 | Carter | | | |
| | 5,342,288 | 8/30/94 | Lee et al. | | | |
| | 5,342,360 | 8/30/94 | Faccioli et al. | | | |
| | 5,352,228 | 10/4/94 | Kummer et al. | | | |
| | 5,376,067 | 12/27/94 | Daneshvar | | | |
| | 5,380,322 | 1/10/95 | van den Brink et al. | | | |
| | 5,383,844 | 1/24/95 | Munoz et al. | | | |
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| | 5,407,421 | 4/18/95 | Goldsmith | | | | |
| | 5,437,666 | 8/1/95 | Tepic et al. | | | | |
| | 5,443,465 | 8/22/95 | Pennig | | | | |
| | 5,571,103 | 11/5/96 | Bailey | | | | |
| | 5,601,551 | 1/22/97 | Taylor et al. | | | | |
| | 5,620,442 | 4/15/97 | Bailey et al. | | | | |
| | 5,643,258 | 7/1/97 | Robioneck et al. | | | | |
| | 5,658,283 | 8/19/97 | Huebner | | | | |
| | 5,662,648 | 9/2/97 | Faccioli et al. | | | | |
| | 5,662,650 | 9/2/97 | Bailey et al. | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FIL. DATE IF APPROP. |
| | 5,683,389 | 11/4/97 | Orsak | | | |
| | 5,709,681 | 1/20/98 | Pennig | | | |
| | 5,718,669 | 2/17/98 | Marble | | | |
| | 5,743,898 | 4/28/98 | Bailey et al. | | | |
| | 5,810,750 | 9/22/98 | Buser | | | |
| | 5,897,555 | 4/27/99 | Clyburn et al. | | | |
| | 5,944,719 | 8/31/99 | Leban | | | |
| | 6,162,223 | 12/19/00 | Orsak et al. | | | |
| | 6,203,548 | 3/20/01 | Helland | | | |
| | 6,245,071 | 6/12/01 | Pierson | | | |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FIL. DATE IF APPROP. |
| | Re. 31,809 | 1/22/85 | Danieletto et al. | | | |
| | Re. 34,627 | 5/31/94 | Davini | | | |
| | Re. 34,985 | 6/27/95 | Pennig | | | |
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